Government for grant of mineral concessionsTor minerals specified under the First Schedule to the aforesaid Act originate from the respective State Governments and are processed and disposed of by the Central Government as per provisions of law. Bauxite is a mineral listed in the First Schedule to the Act and hence all efforts are made to expedite approval of the Central Government in the least possible time. In certain cases, the proposals received from the State Government are found incomplete and consequently, in such cases, the State Governments are asked to furnish complete information/additional information for expeditious disposal of such cases.

(c) Bauxite and alumina can be freely imported by the end users under the trade policy of the Government, and hence the aluminium refineries can supplement the indigenous supply of the raw material, if any, through imports.

Private sector participation in the production of coal and safety of mines

302. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have so far taken any final decision for participation of private sector for the safety of the mines and in the field of production of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the specific projects identified for this purpose; and

(c) the other steps being taken by the Government to upgrade the coal sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) So far. Government has allowed private sector participation in production of coal for captive use by Indian companies engaged in production of iron & steel, power generation, production of cement and washing of coal obtained from a mine.

Private sector participation for the safety of the mines is not envisaged.

(b) As on date 125 captive mining blocks stand earmarked for allocation to public/private sector for captive use by Indian companies. Of these 27 captive mining blocks stand allotted to various parties in public/private sector, details of which are annexed in the statement. *(See* below)

(c) The various steps taken to upgrade the coal sector include:

(i) Measures for improvement in production and productivity by introdlction of modern technologies through global biding on risk/ gain sharing basis.

(ii) Introduction of powered support longwall equipment and mechanization of coal loading operation by Side Discharge Loaders (SDLs) and Load Haul Dumpers (LHDs) for enhancing production and productivity in underground mines.

(iii) Exploring the possibility of development of major new projects through joint ventures.

(iv) Exploring the possibility of technology funding through bilateral working groups for existing underground mines.

(v) Introduction of large sized equipment in opencast mines.

(vi) Measures for capacity utilisation, quality enhancement and consumer satisfaction.

Statement

Details of captive mining blocks which stand allotted as on date

SI.	Name of the party	Block allocated	States	End Use
1	2	3	4	5
1	M/s RPG Industries/ CESC Ltd.	Sarisatolli	West Bengal	Power Generation
2 3	M/s Kalinga Power M/s INDALCO	Utkal-A Talabira-I	Orissa	Power Generation Orissa Power Generation

1	2	3	4 *	5
4	M/s WBSEB	Tara (East)	West Bengal	Power Generation
5	M/s SAIL	Tasra	Jharkhand	Steel Production
6	M/s WBPDCL	Tara (West)	West Bengal	Power Generation
7	M/s Talcher Mining Pvt. Ltd/VPL	Utkal-BI	Orissa	Power Generation
8	M/s BLA Industries	Gotitoria (East)	Madhya Pradesh	Power Generation
9	M/s BLA Industries	Gotitoria (West)	Madhya Pradesh	Power Generation
10	M/s Jindal Strips Ltd.	Gare-Palma-IV/1	Chhattisgarh	Sponge Iron Production
11	M/s Monnet Ispat Ltd.	Gare-Palma-IV/5	Chhattisgarh	Sponge Iron Production
12	M/s Lloyds Metals & Engineers Ltd.	Takli-Jena-Bellora (North)	Maharashtra	Sponge Iron Production
13	M/s ACC	Bisrar	Chhattisgarh	Cement Production
14	M/s Central ColIieries Company	Takli-Jena Bellora (South)	Maharashtra	Power Generation
15	M/s Jindal Power Ltd.	Gare-Palma-IV/2	Chhattisgarh	Power Generation
16	M/s Jindal Power Ltd.	Gare-Palma-IV/3	Chhattisgarh	Power Generation
17	M/s Utkal Coal Ltd.	Utkal-C	Orissa	Power Generation
18	M/s Jayaswal Neco Ltd.	Gare-Palma-IV/4	Chhattisgarh	Sponge Iron Production
19	M/s Monnet Ispat	Utkal-B2	Orissa	Sponge Iron Production
20	M/s Garuda Clays Ltd.	West of Umaria (Provisional)	Chhittisgarh	Cement Production
21	M/s Jayaswal Neco Ltd.	Choritand-Tiliya (Provisional)	Jharkhand	Steel Production/ Captive Power Plant
22	M/s Jayaswal Neco Ltd.	Jogeshwar (Provisional)	Jharkhand	Steel Production/ Captive Power Plant
23	M/s Prakash Industries Ltd.	Chotia (Provisions	l)Chhattisgarh	Sponge Iron Production

1	2	3	4	5
24	M/s Raipur Alloys Steel Ltd.	&Gare-Palma-IV/7	Chhattisgarh	Sponge Iron Production/Captive Power Plant
25	M/s B.S. Ispat	Marki-Mangli	Maharashtra	Sponge Iron Production
26	M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Limited	Cor-Utkal-D	Orissa	Power Generation
27	M/s Punjab State Electricity Board	Pachwara (Provisional conditional upon sub-blocking =sub-blocking awaited)	Jharkhand	Power Generation

Safety measures in mines

303. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to enhance safety measures in the underground and open cast coal mines; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by various coal companies and their subsidiaries in their respective mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps taken by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries to enhance safety measures are as under:—

(A) For underground mines:—

(i) Check correlation survey to guard against inundation—out of 178 mines identified work has been completed in 107 mines and is in process of completion in balance 71 mines.

(ii) Connecting all mine plans to national grid—has almost been completed.

(iii) Wherever required the thickness of barrier between adjacent mines have been proved by positive methods like drilling.